

What is claimed is :

*SMB*

1. An electronic tender system for accepting as contract price the highest or lowest price among bidding prices offered by a plurality of tenders, comprising :

5 a bidder sub-system including a code parameter acquisition means for taking as input a bidding price selected by the tender bidding subsystem within the tenderable range, and for acquiring a code parameter depending on the bidding price, a code processing means for using the code parameter obtained by said code parameter acquisition means, and a

10 transmission means for sending a coded message coded by said coding means to a tender opening sub-system, and

15 a tender opening sub-system including a reception means for accepting said coded bidding prices until the closing day, a selection means for selecting sequentially a contract price candidate from the highest or the lowest among acceptable bidding prices, a decode parameter acquisition means for acquiring a decode parameter corresponding to the contract price candidate selected by said selection means, and a retrieve means for retrieving if a same bidding price as the

20 contract price candidate selected by said selection means exists among coded bidding prices accepted by said reception means using said decode parameter.

2. The electronic tender system as claimed in claim 1, wherein the code processing means of said bidder sub-system,

codes a fixed value using the code parameter obtained by said code parameter acquisition means, and the retrieve means of 5 said tender opening sub-system includes a decoding means for sequentially decoding coded bidding prices received by said reception means according to the decode parameter acquired by said decode parameter acquisition means, and a judgement means for judging that the coded bidding price is identical to 10 the contact price candidate selected by said selection means in the case where the decoding result becomes said fixed value.

3. The electronic tender system as claimed in claim 1, wherein the code processing means of said bidder sub-system, includes a coding operation of the fixed price by a public key corresponding to said bidding price, and the decoding means of said tender opening system, includes a decoding operation with a secret key corresponding to said public key corresponding to the contact price candidate.

4. The electronic tender system as claimed in claim 2, wherein the code processing means of said bidder sub-system, includes a coding operation of the fixed price by a public key corresponding to said bidding price, and the decoding means of 5 said tender opening system, includes a decoding operation with a secret key corresponding to said public key corresponding to the contact price candidate.

5. The electronic tender system a claimed in claim 1, wherein said tender opening system includes an announcement

means for announcing a portion of decode parameter acquired in the decode parameter acquisition means or decoding results obtained in the retrieve means for each contact price candidate.

6. The electronic tender system as claimed in claim 2, wherein said tender opening system includes an announcement means for announcing a portion of decode parameter acquired in the decode parameter acquisition means or decoding results obtained in the retrieve means for each contact price candidate.

7. The electronic tender system as claimed in claim 3, wherein said tender opening system includes an announcement means for announcing a portion of decode parameter acquired in the decode parameter acquisition means or decoding results obtained in the retrieve means for each contact price candidate.

8. The electronic tender system as claimed in claim 4, wherein said tender opening system includes an announcement means for announcing a portion of decode parameter acquired in the decode parameter acquisition means or decoding results obtained in the retrieve means for each contact price candidate.